

FAQ for Travel Parents

1. What is Loudoun Soccer?

- Loudoun Soccer is a member of the Virginia Youth Soccer Association (VYSA). Loudoun Soccer is the largest soccer club in Virginia, with over 15,000 participants registered through its recreation and travel programs.
- Loudoun Soccer currently has 56 travel teams or approximately 750 travel players, and expects to field an estimated 55 to 57 teams for the spring 2009 season.
- Loudoun Soccer travel teams participate in one of three travel leagues:
 - National Capital Soccer League (NCSL) – boys only
 - Washington Area Girls Soccer League (WAGS) – girls only
 - Old Dominion Soccer League (ODSL) – boys and girls

2. What is Loudoun Soccer's vision?

- Loudoun Soccer's vision is to be recognized on the national level as a highly competitive soccer club that provides opportunities for soccer players at every level.
- This vision will be achieved through the following:
 - Investment in its professional staff
 - Investment in player/coach development
 - Investment in a Loudoun Soccer field complex
 - Investment in current county fields
 - Investment in new county fields

3. What are the qualifications of the Loudoun Soccer travel coaches?

- All Loudoun Soccer coaches are certified by recognized international soccer bodies.
- Loudoun Soccer has specific credentials it requires for its travel coaches.
- Loudoun Soccer manages placement of coaches and makes coaching changes/rotations, as needed, to maximize development of its travel players.

4. What training/support does Loudoun Soccer provide for its travel coaches?

- Loudoun Soccer provides the following support/training for its travel coaches:
 - Session observations/feedback
 - Monthly coaching education newsletter
 - Continued formal coach education licensing
 - In-house training
 - Resource library

5. What is the time commitment for my child to participate on a Loudoun Soccer travel team?

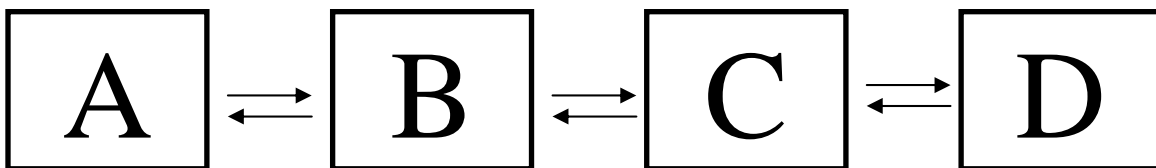
- Loudoun Soccer travel teams typically hold two 1.5 hour practices each week during the fall and spring seasons. An additional day of technical/footskills training is expected from each team each week during the spring and fall seasons.
- Teams will participate in league play, as well as tournaments.
 - Higher level teams that are U12 and older will participate in State Cup. State Cup is a single elimination tournament held by VYSA to determine the best team in an age group in the state.
- Teams also participate in various levels of winter training. Many teams also participate in winter indoor leagues.

6. What is the financial commitment for my child to participate on a Loudoun Soccer travel team?

- The financial commitment to participate on a Loudoun Soccer travel team varies by team depending on expenses which can include but are not limited to the following:
 - Coach and/or paid trainer
 - Club, league and state association dues/fees
 - Tournaments
 - Optional training
- Many teams participate in various fundraising activities to offset the expenses for its players.

7. Does Loudoun Soccer support movement of children between the various teams in a given age group?

- Loudoun Soccer supports an “academy” structure, which allows for movement between the teams in a given age group based on the individual growth and development of each player.



8. What additional training does Loudoun Soccer offer for its travel players?

Loudoun Soccer currently offers the following training programs for its travel players:

- Loudoun Soccer Footskills Academy – This additional training opportunity is available to all U9 and above travel players. Players will be grouped according to age and ability to provide the best possible learning environment. The FS Academy is divided into two groups- FS1 and FS2 based on age and physical maturation.

- FS1: Players will cover a wide variety of skills including first touch, individual footskills, juggling, speed of play, 1vs1, ball receiving and correct ball striking.
- FS2: Advanced Footskills Training, for 13-18 year old players, which includes Plyometric and speed and quickness (SAQ) training with the ball.
- Loudoun Soccer Goalkeeping Academy The GK Academy provides year-round goalkeeping programs for Loudoun Soccer GK's at four different levels: Level 1, Intermediate, Premier and Elite. Groups are divided by players ABILITY.
- Striker Academy- The Striker Academy is divided into two groups based on ABILITY. Level 1 and Level 2.
- The training curricula for all Academy programs are based upon established educational techniques administered by the National Soccer Coaches Association (NSCAA) of America and the United States Soccer Federation (USSF). Our most experienced staff provide the training on all Academy programs.

9. Who do I contact if I have a question or a concern with my team or coach?

- In general, if you have a question or concern regarding your team, please contact your team manager.
- If you have additional questions or concerns regarding your team or your team's coach, you may contact Dave Edwards, Director of Coaching (Travel), at coachedu@loudounsoccer.com.
- If you need further assistance with an administrative issue related to your team, you may contact Fiona Legg, Travel Program Manager, at tpm@loudounsoccer.com .